IN THE CLAIMS

A complete set of claims is contained herein. Kindly replace the claims in the application with those contained herein as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A biodegradable device for providing sustained vasodilation at a graft site ~~in~~ within a patient, comprising:

a biocompatible, biodegradable carrier sized to circumferentially encompass said site;

a vasodilator incorporated into said carrier, which vasodilator is present in a topically effective amount to achieve sustained vasodilation at [a selected] said site in a patient.

2. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said vasodilator is selected from the group consisting of nitroglycerine and calcium channel blockers.

3. (Original) The device of claim 2, wherein said calcium channel blockers are selected from the group consisting of: verapamil, diltiazem, and nifedipine.

4. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said vasodilator comprises a calcium channel blocker and is incorporated into said carrier at a concentration of about 5 mg/2 ml of solution.

5. (Original) The device of claim 4, wherein said calcium channel blocker is verapamil.

6. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said vasodilator is nitroglycerine and is incorporated into said carrier at a concentration of about 1 mg/ml of solution.

7. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said carrier comprises methylcellulose.

8. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said carrier comprises equine collagen.

9. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said carrier is in the form of a strip.

10. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said device is disposed in a sterile container.

11. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said vasodilation is sustained for several days.

12. (Cancel)

13. (Currently amended) A method for providing sustained vasodilation at a selected graft site ~~in~~ within a patient, comprising:

administering, at [a] said selected site in a patient, a vasodilator incorporated into a biocompatible, biodegradable carrier sized to circumferentially encompass said site, which vasodilator is present in a topically effective amount to achieve sustained vasodilation at said selected site.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said vasodilator is selected from the group consisting of nitroglycerine and calcium channel blockers.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said calcium channel blockers are selected from the group consisting of: verapamil, diltiazem, and nifedipine.

16. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said vasodilator is a calcium channel blocker and is incorporated into said carrier at a concentration of about 5 mg/2 ml of solution.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said calcium channel blocker is verapamil.

18. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said vasodilator comprises nitroglycerine, and is incorporated into said carrier at a concentration of about 1 mg/ml of solution.

A1 CM

19. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said carrier comprises methylcellulose.

20. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said carrier comprises equine collagen.

21. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said carrier is in the form of a strip.

22. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said vasodilation is sustained for several days.

23. (Cancel).

A2

24. (New) The device of claim 1, wherein said carrier is perforated.

25. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein said carrier is perforated.